

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-15 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

MBFR-04 SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-10 SS-15 ACDA-19

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SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T BONN 14117

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - CORRECTING PARA 2

GENEVA FOR U.S. DEL CSCE: SHAPE FOR INTAF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, GW, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS

1. RUTH ASKED EMBOFF TO CALL SEPT 27 TO EXPLAIN CURRENT GERMAN THINKING ON PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS. AS A RESULT OF A CAREFUL REVIEW OF THE TOPIC,FRG INTENDED TO PROPOSE IN NATO THAT (A) REFERENCES TO "THE AREA" IN MEASURES II AND IV (PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT OF AND EXCHANGE OF OBSERVERS AT MAJOR EXERCISES BE DROPPED FROM THE PARA 6 FORMULATIONS, AND (B) THE PROPOSED PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURE IMPOSING LIMITATIONS ON SIZE, LOCATIONS, NUMBER AND DURATION OF MAJOR EXERCISES (III) BE DROPPED ALTOGETHER. INSTEAD, RUTH SAID PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES SHOULD

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BE LIMITED TO PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT OF MOVEMENTS OF U.S.

AND SOVIET FORCES INTO THE AREA (I), AS WELL AS THE CBM TYPE MEASURES CONCERNING MAJOR EXERCISES IN II AND IV OF PARA 6 OF THE CURRENT ALLIED POSITION PAPER. WHETHER OR NOT MAJOR MILITARY MOVEMENTS ARE INCLUDED AS A CSCE/CBM, SUCH A MEASURE ALSO COULD BE ADDED AS MBFR PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURE. RUTH SAID HE WOULD HOPE THAT THE RESEMBLANCE OF PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES (EXCEPT FOR I) AND CSCE/CBM'S MIGHT MAKE IT EASIER TO CONVINCE ALL OF THE MBFR DIRECT PARTICIPANTS AS WELL AS ALL OR SOME OF THE MBFR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS TO AGREE AT AN EARLY POINT IN THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS TO SUCH PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES. RUTH NOTED THAT ALL THREE CBM TYPE MEASURES IN MBFR WOULD BE OF AN OBLIGATORY NATURE, AS OPPOSED TO THE MERELY VOLUNTARY CHARACTER IN CSCE.

2. EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT

FRG NATO DEL CONSULT WITH U.S. NATO BEFORE THE ABOVE TYPE PROPOSAL WAS TO BE TABLED. DRAWING ON LATEST GUIDANCE WE HAVE RECEIVED, EMBOFF SAID THE U.S. CONTINUED TO ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO PARA 6-III OF ALLIED POSITION PAPER IN ORDER TO DETER USE OF SUCH EXERCISES FOR POLITICAL PRESSURES OR COVERT BUILD UP ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER. RUTH SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THIS VIEW AND AGREED TO INSTRUCT HIS NATO DEL TO CONSULT WITH U.S. NATO BEFORE TABLING THE ABOVE PROPOSAL. HOWEVER, RUTH SAID THE DEFENSE MINISTRY WAS CONVINCED THAT THE ALLIES HAD NOT YET FULLY CONSIDERED THE IMPLICATIONS FOR ALLIED DEFENSE CAPABILITY AND MOBILITY OF LIMITATIONS ON SIZE, LOCATIONS, NUMBERS AND DURATION OF EXERCISES. HE SAID IT WOULD BE BETTER TO CONTINUE ALLIED CONSIDERATION OF THIS MATTER AND PERHAPS TO RESERVE THIS TYPE OF MEASURE FOR USE AS A CONSTRAINT COLLATERAL TO ACTUAL REDUCTIONS IN MBFR-I OR MBFR-II. FINALLY, RUTH ADDED THAT THERE WAS A SHORTAGE OF GOOD TRAINING AREAS IN THE FRG AND THAT SUCH AREAS TENDED TO BE CLOSE TO THE

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EASTERN BORDER.

3. COMMENT. THE ABOVE TENDS TO CONFIRM BONN 13738, WHICH DESCRIBED THE INCREASINGLY CAUTIOUS APPROACH DEVELOPING IN GERMAN MBFR POLICY. THIS CAUTION IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTING IN THE FIELD OF PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES, WHICH HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A MAJOR FOCUS OF FRG ATTENTION.

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